

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 016906-0222

In re patent application of

Karl-Heinz STAFFA et al.

Serial No. Unassigned

Filed: September 14, 2001

For: COLLECTOR TUBE FOR A HEAT TRANSFER UNIT AND METHOD FOR
PRODUCING SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicant respectfully request that the following amendment be entered into the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3 and 7 as submitted with the English translation of the annex of the International Preliminary Examination Report as follows:

3. (Amended) Header tube according to Claim 1, further characterized in that the ratio (D/D1) of the tube outside diameter (D) outside the slot regions to the tube transverse extent (D1) in the slot regions is between 1.02 and 1.5.

7. (Amended) Method according to Claim 4, further characterized in that punctiform heat treatment and/or mechanical weakening is provided at the points at which the slot or slats (3a) to (3d) are to be introduced.--